

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY:S/S-O: DWOODALL

APPROVED BY:S/S-O: W. NEWLIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 191319

TOSEC 62

FOL SENT ACTION SECSTATE WASHDC INFO PHNOM PENH PARIS MOSCOW
SAIGON HONG KONG CINCPAC WHITE HOUSE SEPTEMBER 26, 1973 FROM
PEKING REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1129

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH CB

SUBJ: PEKING SUPPORT FOR SIHANOUK

1. DURING RECENT VISITS BY FRENCH PRESIDENT POMPIDOU
AND EGYPTIAN VICE PRESIDENT SHAFEI, CAMBODIA APPEARS
TO HAVE BEEN MAJOR SUBJECT OF CHINESE CONCERN. AT
AIRPORT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE CEREMONIES CAMBODIAN
REPS GIVEN MAJOR PROMINENCE, AND AT BOTH BANQUETS FOR SHAFEI
PENN NOUTH AND SARAN CHHAK WERE RANKED SECOND ONLY
TO EGYPTIAN GUEST OF HONOR.

2. BELGIAN CHARGE HAS TOLD US THAT DESPITE POMPIDOU'S
DESIRE TO CONCENTRATE ON BILATERAL ISSUES, CHOU EN-LAI
DEVOTED ONE ENTIRE SESSION TO DISCUSSION OF CAMBODIAN
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PROBLEM. CHOU URGED FRENCH TO RECOGNIZE SIHANOUK BEFORE

RUSSIANS DO SO. HE ARGUED THAT ONLY BY INCREASING FRENCH
INFLUENCE WITH SIHANOUK FORCES COULD THERE BE HOPE FOR
GENUINELY NEUTRALIST CAMBODIA. SHOULD RUSSIANS GAIN
UPPER HAND E.G., BY PRIOR RECOGNITION, HE ARGUED, SIHANOUK WOULD
LOSE OUT TO KHMER ROUGE. BRUCE UNQUOTE RUSH

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